

HA-1797
Between 1915 and 1933
Bel Air
Private

The Magness House, 35 W. Broadway, faces north on a narrow tree-shaded lot in Richardson's Addition in a block that is mostly commercial. Looking rather like half a 4-square, it is a tidy, 3 bay, 1 1/2 story, hipped-roof clapboard house with its door slightly off center in the middle bay. Its hipped dormer with 2 four-pane windows and the paired 3/1 double-hung sash windows elsewhere mark it as a child of the 1920s or 1930s, although its exact date is uncertain.

Building began west of Main St. in Richardson's Addition in the 1880s; it and the Hayes Addition begun at the same time are the oldest extensions of the town. It is a mix of styles from Victorian to brick rancher, and a mix of classes as well, with working-man's housing along the north and south edges and middle class homes through the center. West Broadway is a street of small working-man's houses and commercial establishments on the north edge of the addition. This cottage, built between 1915 and 1933, is the most stylish of the two blocks of houses. With its hip roof and 3/1 windows, it was more likely built after 1920 than before. Ramsey Magness bought the lot from the Richardson heirs in 1915. He may have built it.

HA-1797
Magness House
Bel Air, Harford Co.

FRAMEWORK FOR IDENTIFYING COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

3. Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period:

x 11. Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930

___ 12. Modern Period 1930 - present

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme:

2. Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community
Planning

Resource Type:

Category: Architecture

Historic Environment: Urban

Historic Function and Use: Private Residence

Known Design Source: unknown

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. MA-1797

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Magness House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 35 W. Broadway n/a not for publication

city, town Bel Air vicinity of congressional district 3rd

state MD county Harford

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<u> </u> district	<u> </u> public	<u> </u> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture	<u> </u> museum
<u> </u> building(s)	<u> </u> private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial	<u> </u> park
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> educational	<u> </u> private residence
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment	<u> </u> religious
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<u> </u> yes: restricted	<u> </u> government	<u> </u> scientific
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial	<u> </u> transportation
	<u> </u> not applicable	<u> </u> no	<u> </u> military	<u> </u> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Joseph Foster

street & number 48 W. Gordon St. telephone no.: 879-7323

city, town Bel Air state and zip code MD 21014

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Harford County Courthouse liber 823

street & number folio 481

city, town Bel Air state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. EA-1771

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing resource count: one.

The Magness House, 35 W. Broadway, faces north on a narrow tree-shaded lot in a block that is mostly commercial. Looking rather like half a 4-square, it is a tidy, 3 bay, 1 1/2 story, hipped-roof clapboard house with its door slightly off center in the middle bay. Its hipped dormer with 2 four-pane windows and the paired 3/1 double-hung sash windows elsewhere mark it as a child of the 1920s or 1930s, although its exact date is uncertain.

The roof ~~forms~~ overhang forms the front porch, now screened, and a shed addition in the rear completes this simple little house.

Mr. Foster declined to have the interior visited, but said the house has three bedrooms; the rear bedroom and an extension of the kitchen seem to be the only alterations, done during the ownership of the Chilcoats.

8. Significance

Survey No. A-1791

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates betw. 1915 and 1933 Builder/Architect unknown

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Building began west of Main St. in Richardson's Addition in the 1880s; it and the Hayes Addition, begun at the same time, are the oldest extensions of the town. It is a mix of styles from Victorian to brick rancher, and a mix of classes as well, with working-man's housing along the north and south edges and middle class homes through the center. West Broadway is a street of small working-man's houses and commercial establishments on the north edge of the addition. This cottage, built between 1915 and 1933, is the most stylish of the two blocks of houses. With its hip roof and 3/1 windows, it was more likely built after 1920 than before. Ramsey Magness bought the lot from the Richardson heirs in 1915. He may have built it. Ramsey sold the property to Albert H. Magness in December 1933. From the style, it is also possible that Albert Magness built it. Albert Magness was president of Standard Equipment Co., a metal fabricating firm on the Emmorton Road.

John Stanley Chilcoat, owner between 1944 and 1955, worked for the Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Company. Chilcoat sold it to Joseph T. Foster, partner in Dean & Foster Furniture Company and Funeral Home. Dean & Foster was at 13 N. Main St. [HA-1427]. Mr. Foster built the house at 48 W. Gordon St. [HA-1789] in 1932. He bought this house in 1955. His son, Joseph W. Foster, lived here after he got married and before he exchanged houses with his parents in 1960 and moved into 48 W. Gordon. The elder Foster had been ill, and he and his wife preferred the small house all on one level. Joseph W. Foster and his sister, Mildred Elizabeth, inherited from their father, and Joseph W. got this house and the house on Gordon St. from the division. It is a rental.

The Chilcoats added to the back of the house, extending the kitchen and adding a bedroom. The house now has 3 bedrooms.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. MA-1797

Harford County Land Records

Interview with Mr. and Mrs. Joseph W. Foster, 30 April 1993.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Bel AirQuadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

Zone	Easting				Northing				

B

Zone	Easting				Northing				

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Parcel 480 in the Town of Bel Air, 50' x 143'.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dr. Marilyn M. Lareworganization _____ date 7-15-93street & number RD 1, Box 219 telephone 717-993-3557city or town New Park state PA 17352

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE MD 21032-2023
(301) 736000

PS-2746

HA-1797
Magness House
35 W. Broadway
Bel Air, MD 21014

owner: Mrs. Joseph W. Foster

823/481 26 Aug 1969
Zero, Inc.
to
Joseph William Foster and Jeanne A. and Mildred
Elizabeth Foster, unmarried
Various parcels, the property of Joseph T. Foster,
Sophia B., his wife, having died earlier. He devised
the properties to son Joseph William and daughter
Mildred Elizabeth, will 29/579. Part of parcel 4 is 35
W.Broadway. This deed and the two following are to
divide the property.

823/486 26 Aug 1969
Zero, Inc.
to
Joseph W. Foster and Jeanne A.
all of the above except a part of parcel 4, recorded
below

823/484 26 Aug 1969
Zero, Inc.
to
Joseph W. Foster and Jeanne, and Mildred Elizabeth
Foster
lots 9 and 10 of block A in Richardson's Addition

433/195 15 Apr 1955
John Stanley Chilcoat and Marie E.
to
Joseph T. Foster and Sophia B.
lots 9-13 of block A in Richardson's Addition

Title splits into 9 and 10 and 11-13. We follow 9 and
10 (35 W. Broadway).

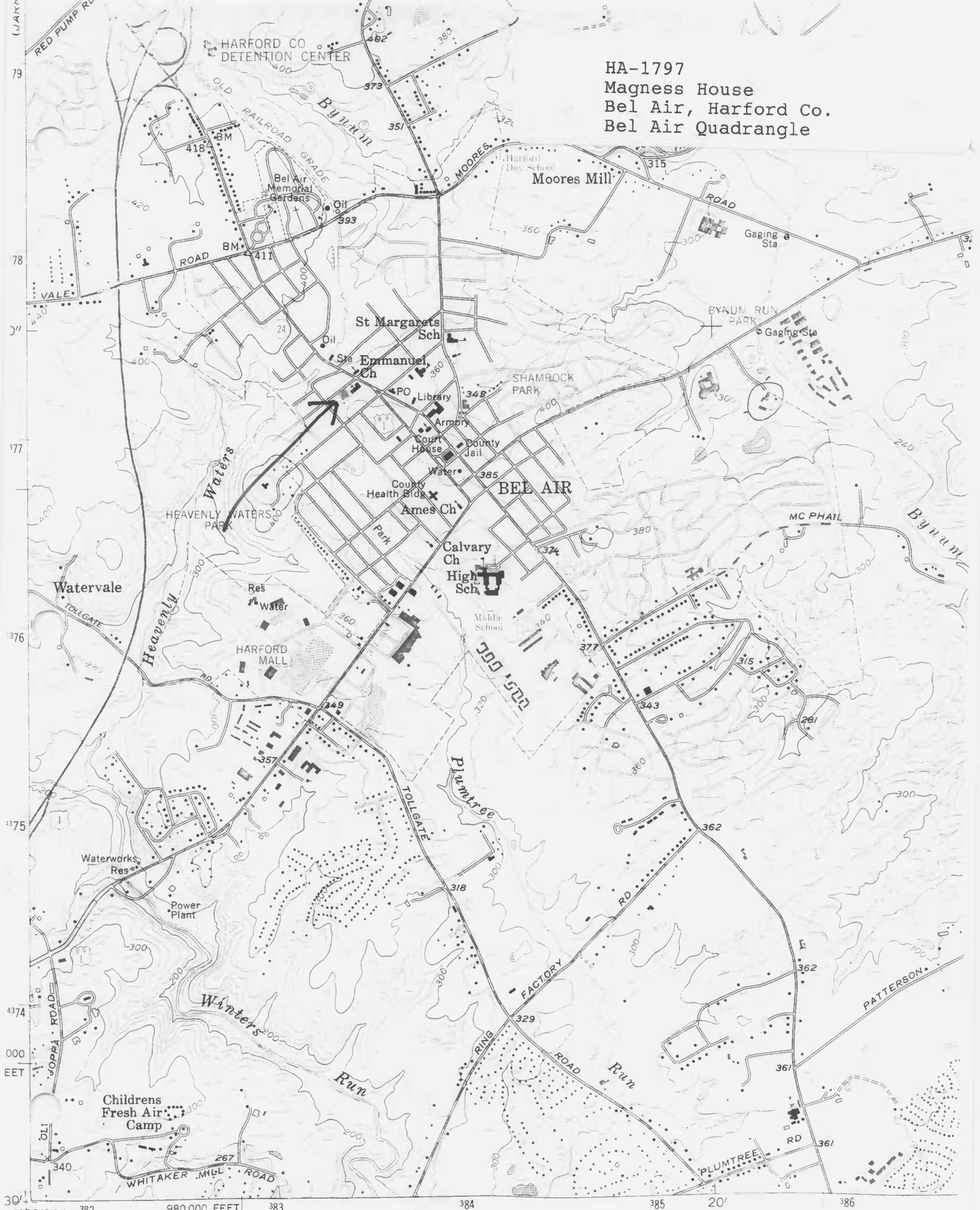
284/61 5 June 1944
Albert H. Magness and Helen E.
to
J. Stanley Chilcoat and Marie E.

227/402 13 Dec 1933
Ramsey L. Magness and Sadie H.
to
Albert H. Magness and Helen E.

150/68

25 May 1915
Henrietta Rouse et al
to
Ramsey L. Magness
Rouse et al own Richardson's Addition.

HA-1797
Magness House
Bel Air, Harford Co.
Bel Air Quadrangle





35 W. BROADWAY



35 W. BROADWAY
BEL AIR



35 W. BROADWAY
BEL AIR